

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. 5-[4-(6-Methoxy-1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-ylmethoxy)benzyl]-thiazolidin-2, 4-dione hydrochloride.
2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 together with a carrier therefor.
3. A method of treating a mammal in need of treatment with an active agent selected from the group consisting of insulin resistance improving agent, hypoglycemic agent, anti-inflammatory agent, immuno-regulator, aldose reductase inhibitor, 5-lipoxygenase inhibitor, peroxidized lipid production suppressor, PPAR activator, anti-osteoporosis agent, leukotrienes antagonist, fat cell formation promotor, cancer cell proliferation suppressor and calcium antagonist, comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 as said active agent.
4. A method according to claim 3 wherein said active agent is an insulin resistance improving agent.
5. A method according to claim 3 wherein said active agent is a hypoglycemic agent.
6. A method of treatment or prophylaxis of a human having a disease selected from the group consisting of diabetes mellitus, hyperglycemia, impaired glucose tolerance, diabetic complications, hyperlipidemia, obesity, hypertension, fatty liver, arteriosclerosis, gestational diabetes, polycystic ovary syndrome, cardiovascular diseases, atherosclerosis, and inflammatory diseases, comprising administering to said human an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
7. A method according to claim 6 wherein said disease is diabetes mellitus.
8. A method according to claim 6 wherein said disease is impaired glucose tolerance.
9. A method according to claim 6 wherein said disease is diabetic complications.

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